

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MEXICO 06497 311832Z

44-S

ACTION SS-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 ARA-03 RSR-01 RSC-01 SSO-00 /020 W

----- 110320

P 311729Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7741

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 6497

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, MX

SUBJECT: SIGNATURE OF SALINITY AGREEMENT

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM MC BRIDE

1. THE EXCHANGE OF NOTES BETWEEN RABASA AND ME YESTERDAY CONCLUDING THE COLORADO RIVER SALINITY PROBLEM BRINGS TO A CLOSE A NEGOTIATION WHICH HAS BEEN ACTIVE DURING THE PAST FOUR YEARS AND EVEN EARLIER. THE RESOLUTION OF THIS IMMENSELY COMPLICATED AND THORNY MATTER RESOLVES THE LAST MAJOR POLITICAL PROBLEM BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND MEXICO, PREVIOUS MAIN OUTSTANDING ISSUES HAVING BEEN NEGOTIATED BY YOU WITH CARRILLO FLORES TERMINATING IN THE PUERTO VALLARTA AGREEMENT OF 1970. THIS YOU WILL OF COURSE RECALL REPRESENTED AN OVERALL BOUNDARY SETTLEMENT.

2. THE TERMINATION NOW OF THE SALINITY PROBLEM IS A TRIBUTE TO THE PATIENCE AND PERSISTENCE WITH WHICH YOU AND AMBASSADOR BROWNELL HAVE NEGOTIATED WITH THE MEXICANS WHO HAVE ALWAYS BEEN FIRM AND FREQUENTLY DIFFICULT AND EVEN UNREASONABLE IN THEIR DEMANDS. IT IS PARTICULARLY GRATIFYING THAT WE HAVE BEEN WILLING TO CONTINUE STEADFASTLY IN THIS NEGOTIATION TO ITS CONCLUSION IN SPITE OF THE ANNOYANCES AND DIFFICULTIES ALONG THE ROAD. IT

IS OF COURSE TOO BAD THAT THE PREVIOUS ADMINISTRATION OF PRESIDENT DIAZ ORDEZ AT THE LAST MOMENT CHOSE NOT TO ACCEPT YOUR PROPOSAL OF JULY 1970 ON SALINITY AS THIS WOULD HAVE SAVED US A LARGE AMOUNT OF MONEY. HOWEVER, NOW NEARLY THREE YEARS OF NEGOTIATIONS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MEXICO 06497 311832Z

WITH THE ECHEVERRIA ADMINISTRATION HAVE BEEN SUCESSFULLY

TERMINATED AND I THINK THAT YOU PERSONALLY WITH AMBASSADOR BROWNELL CAN TAKE THE CREDIT FOR ENDING THIS VERY LONG-STANDING SORE POINT IN OUR RELATIONS, ONE WHICH THE MEXICANS COULD AGITATE AT WILL IN VIEW OF ITS EMOTIONAL CONNOTATIONS PARTICULARLY IN THE MEXICALI VALLEY. I BELIEVE THAT ITS SOLUTION WILL HAVE PERMANENTLY BENEFICIAL EFFECTS IN OUR RELATIONS WITH MEXICO AND CAN BE POINTED TO BY US WITH PRIDE AS AN EXAMPLE OF OUR FAIR AND JUST DEALINGS WITH OUR NEIGHBORS. AT THE SAME TIME THE POSSIBILITY OF AN INTERNATIONAL COURT CASE WITH ALL OF ITS POTENTIALLY UNPLEASANT CONNOTATIONS HAS BEEN ELIMINATED.

3. IN CONNECTION WITH THE LAST RATHER HECTIC ACTIVITIES OF THIS WEEK IN ORDER TO MEET THE MEXICAN WISHES TO GET THE PUBLICITY OUT ON THIS AGREEMENT BEFORE ECHEVERRIA'S STATE OF THE UNION MESSAGE TOMORROW I WOULD LIKE TO PAY TRIBUTE TO THE CONSTANT HELP OF EATON AND MEXICAN COUNTRY DIRECTOR TORREY WITH WHOM WE HAVE CONSTANTLY BEEN ON THE TELEPHONE. FINALLY AS WITH GREAT REGRET WE SEE YOU DEPART, MR. SECRETARY, I BELIEVE YOU MUST BE PERSONALLY PROUD OF THIS ACCOMPLISHMENT AS WELL AS OF THE GENERAL EXCELLENT STATE OF OUR RELATIONS WITH MEXICO IN WHICH YOU HAVE BEEN SO ACTIVIE AND DEVOTED.

MCBRIDE

NOTE BY OC/T: DISTRIBUTION PER SS-O MR. FINNERTY.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973MEXICO06497
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: MEXICO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t1973081/aaaaaacn.tel
Line Count: 84
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23-Jan-2002 by willialc>; APPROVED <12 FEB 2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SIGNATURE OF SALINITY AGREEMENT
TAGS: PBOR, MX
To: SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005